GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5400
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2001
AFGHAN REFUGEES IN THE COUNTRY
A.K. PREMAJAM;RUPCHAND MURMU;VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have already accepted a large number of Afghan refugees;

(b) if so, the number thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also discussed the refugees problem with the opposition parties;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) whether the Government would provide food and shelter to those who wish to leave Afghanistan; and

(f) if so, the number of Afghan refugees likely to migrate to India in the near future ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) & (b): Due to the prolonged war and ethnic conflict in Afghanistan from 1980 onwards, a large number of Afghan nationals migrated to India. As per records, there are 12083 such registered Afghan nationals residing in India. In addition there are 11696 Afghans staying in India with UNHCR refugee certificates.

(c) & (d): No Sir.

(e) & (f): No such proposal is under consideration and number of such Afghans is not available.